Saint Anselm COLLEGE

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Mr. Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, MD 21702

Dear Harold:

It was good, as always, to hear from you. Sorry I wasn't at Wrone's last Sunday when you and he talked. I had a productive trip and a great visit with the Wrones. I always come away from visits with Wrone with renewed energy and clearer thinking.

I wrote to Beacon Press yesterday (copy of the letter enclosed). I hope that I did not badly misrepresent the book you are working on. I assumed that if we get any kind of response that we can then explain in more detail. I will wait a week or two and then give Beacon a call to follow up. I have enclosed a copy of an interview with the publisher which appeared in last Sunday's *Globe*. She certainly seems to be the kind of person who would have an interest in your book. The company is small enough that I might be able to get my foot in the door. In any case, I'll keep you posted. If this goes nowhere, I'll try Little, Brown and will talk to some of the book reps that come around the college.

When I was in our Dalton Books today, I saw that Mailer's book is already out. Random House has done it again! I hated to give them any of my money, but bought the thing anyway thinking that I might be able to do a review for some journal. At the very least, Gerry and I can include some criticism of it in our paper at the sociology meeting in D.C. in August. I have not gotten into it yet, but noticed on the jacket the following:

> In this book, Norman Mailer asks the essential question about the assassination of JFK: Not "Who killed Kennedy?" but "Who was Oswald?" for only by answering the latter question can we hope to answer the first.

I wonder if Random House is doing any logic texts these days! If so, I am sure they would make fascinating reading. The jacket write-up ends with the following incredible statement:

> *Oswald's Tale: An American Mystery* is a nonfiction masterpiece, a work of meticulous research and reportage, but the reporter in this case is our most distinguished novelist, who comes to the task not only with a sober respect for the facts, but with a novelist's power to bring these facts to vibrant life.

I have not seen anything else on the book, except the Publisher's Weekly item which I enclose. I will keep looking and will send anything I come across. If there is anything else I can do, don't hesitate to let me know. In the mean time, I look forward to your book.

I have been eagerly awaiting *Never Again*. Barnes & Noble has quite a few copies on order so I hope to see it shortly. Wrone and Ginocchio mentioned to me the planned press conference. I hope that it works (or worked) out and your book gets a little of the attention I am sure it will deserve.

Best regards to Lil.

Sincerely,

Dennis

Dennis W. MacDonald